



HELP FOR HORSES COMING FROM SWITZERLAND

An international charity organisation based in Switzerland is planning to send veterinarians to Lagoa at the beginning of next month to help maltreated horses.

Abuse of horses in the Sitio das Cencas area has been going on for years with the full knowledge of local and national authorities who seem powerless to end the disgrace.

Christa Seiler Stocker of the Swiss Mobile Veterinary Clinic (SMVC) told Lagoa Informa that she will be bringing two fully-equipped veterinarians from Switzerland to spend a month here working on the problem.

The SMVC is dedicated to offering free medical care and support for animals. It also gives advice to owners as well as associations caring for abandoned or abused animals.

In addition to the Lagoa horses, the Swiss veterinarians plan to treat as many other horses as possible throughout of the Algarve in the time they are here.

SMVC is currently working with lawyers in the hope of removing the maltreated Lagoa animals from their owner.

Many Algarve animal lovers have complained that the owner has been keeping horses in barren fields with so little food or water that some have become skeletal.

“It is an atrocious situation,” said Ms Seiler Stocker, a Swiss-American who lived in the Algarve from 1994 to 2006 and built her own equestrian centre here. She is now living in Switzerland but has witnessed the Lagoa problem at first hand on previous visits.

“It is very difficult, but we won’t let this case drop,” she said. “I am in contact with a very dedicated lawyer in Lisbon, and she has agreed to help us in this matter.”

The SMVC organisation she founded depends on public donations, which are used to help buy necessary medications and keep on treating animals.

For more on SMVC: www.swissmobileveterinaryclinic.com